



Date: May 15, 2006
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report For Week Ending May 12, 2006

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending May 12, 2006. Consistent with our Focus on Results (FOR) Long Beach performance management efforts, we are now using "Citywide Focus Areas" to organize our weekly activities. These Focus Areas are built upon the broad categories identified in the Strategic Plan 2010 document and provide a comprehensive framework for communicating all City programs and services. It is our hope that this new framework, which will be used for a variety of City documents, will improve our ability to communicate information about the services we provide to both the City Council and the community.

The City Report is being published and distributed every Monday to allow a greater period of time before the upcoming events. I hope you will find this information useful and the new layout easy to understand. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Focus: Leisure, Culture and Education

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

The 2006 Long Beach Golf Festival began with the 16th Annual Senior Amateur Championship on May 10-12, at El Dorado, Skylinks, and Recreation Park 18 Golf Courses. For information on upcoming events, visit www.lbgolffestival.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Focus: Health and Human Services

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

A Child Passenger Safety Program workshop on **May 15** will show participants how to make sure children are properly secured, and explain the difference between child safety seats and booster seats. The free workshop begins at 6:00 pm at the Long Beach Neighborhood Resource Center, 425 Atlantic Ave. Call 570.1010 for details.

Focus: Environment

Public Works

Participate in the 10th Annual Bike to Work Day **Thursday, May 18** from 6:00 am to 9:00 am. Ride your bike to work to promote bicycling as a HEALTHY form of transportation to the workplace. Visit www.longbeach.gov for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Focus: Business and Economic Assistance

Community Development, Workforce Development Bureau

A Summer Opportunities Fair will be held for Long Beach-area youth on **Thursday, May 18**, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at The Grand, 4101 E. Willow St., (corner of Willow St. and Grand Ave.) Youth can receive information on summer employment opportunities, internships, job training programs, educational programs, and opportunities for volunteer service. For more information, call the Youth Opportunity Center at 800.292.7200 or 570.4700, or visit www.longbeachworkforce.org.

Focus: Environment

Public Works, Environmental Services

Kick off your summer garden! Attend a free Smart-Gardening, Vermicomposting & Composting Workshop on **May 20**, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Environmental Services Bureau at 2929 East Willow Street in Long Beach. These workshops are held on the third Saturday of every month. To enroll, please call 570.4694. Compost bins will be available for a nominal price. For more information, visit www.longbeach-recycles.org.

Focus: Leisure, Culture and Education

Parks, Recreation and Marine

Help Support the Long Beach Municipal Band!

Tickets are now on sale for the Long Beach Municipal Band Inaugural Gala Celebration to be held on **Saturday, June 17**, at 7:00 pm at the Long Beach Convention Center Grand Ballroom. The gala will support the Band's eight-week season of free concerts in city parks. The evening includes silent and live auctions, dancing to the Ed Martel Trio and the Municipal Band Jazz Ensemble, and a special concert featuring the Long Beach Municipal Band. Tickets are \$50 per person **before May 22** and \$60 after **May 22**. Reservations **after June 6** are \$75. Proceeds from the gala will benefit the Municipal Band through Partners of Parks, a nonprofit, public benefit corporation, supporting public Parks, Recreation and Marine programs, and facilities in Long Beach. For more information and reservations, please visit www.LBParks.org.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Leisure, Culture and Education

Community Development and Library Services

On May 2, staff from the 7th Street Community Police Center organized a special graduation ceremony to recognize 15 parents and their 26 children for completing the *Raising A Reader* program, which encourages parents to read to their children. For information about the 7th Street Community Police Center and its community events, contact Gonzalo_Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Leisure, Culture and Education

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

Approximately 500 people attended a *Cinco de Mayo Street Fair* at Hudson Park on May 6. The event featured music and entertainment, food vendors, arts and crafts, kids' area, art display, and information and health booths.

Approximately 150 attended a *Cinco de Mayo Afternoon in the Park* at Houghton Park on May 7. Light refreshments were served while guests enjoyed an afternoon of traditional Mexican music and entertainment.

Focus: Leadership, Management, and Support

Public Works, Long Beach Airport

A total of 174 people attended five airport tours conducted by Public Affairs staff in April. Congressmen Jerry Costello and John J. Duncan, Jr. and two staff members participated in one of those tours.

Approximately 35 people heard the Long Beach Airport Public Information Officer discuss Airport issues during the El Dorado Women's Club luncheon.

Focus: Leisure, Culture and Education

Public Works, Long Beach Airport

On April 29, Public Affairs staff served as judges for the Long Beach Unified School District's 11th Annual Science Fair at Cabrillo High School. Sixty-three schools, 150 reviewers, and friends and families participated.

Focus: Neighborhoods and Housing

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

On April 27, the Code Enforcement Division sent out 324 Weed Abatement reminder letters to property owners of all vacant lots in Long Beach. These letters are sent out every year after the rainy season to remind property owners of their responsibility to keep their property free from weeds, trash and debris. They are given the opportunity to comply prior to follow-up compliance inspections. If an inspection reveals a continuing problem, an administrative citation, which includes a \$100 fine, could be issued. After 30 days, continued non-compliance could result in the City cleaning the lot and billing the property owner.

On May 6, staff worked with 35 resident volunteers to plant 49 trees in the Willmore Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area. Teams worked from 4th to 10th Streets between Maine to Pacific Avenue to plant Purple Leaf Plum, Chinese Flame, Tabebuia and Australian Willow trees. The trees are a beautiful addition to this historic neighborhood. Contact Teresa.Gonzalez@longbeach.gov for information about the Willmore Community Police Center and its community events. Contact James.Osgood@longbeach.gov for information about neighborhood tree plantings.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services

More than 300 participants attended a Health Fair, *A Healthy Mind, a Healthy Body*, on May 6 at Community Hospital of Long Beach. The event was an effort to raise awareness about mental health issues in the community.

Focus: Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services

On May 4, the DHHS hosted a Cinco de Mayo Health and Safety Resource Fair. The event, *Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with Respect*, promoted general awareness of the true meaning and familial nature of the holiday.

On April 28, the ninth forum, "Safety First! Tips for Keeping Your Children Healthy and Safe," in the *Growing a Healthy Family Series* was held at the Miller Family Health Education Center. The free family-centered forum, sponsored by a grant from the Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation, focused on children/family safety. A presentation on different types of car seats, elements of correct safety seat installation, and the laws surrounding child passenger safety in California was part of the program.

Focus: Community Safety

Police

Citywide, police officers responded to 710 priority one, 1, 551 priority two and 1,360 priority three calls for service, for a total of 3,621 for the reporting period.

The Long Beach Police Department and other members of the L.A. County DUI Task Force conducted a Safety and Driver License Checkpoint in the North Division. During the eight-hour operation, 1,018 vehicles passed through the checkpoint, with 332 being screened. Seven people were arrested, 20 vehicles were impounded because the drivers were unlicensed, and 28 drivers were issued traffic citations. Officers from Long Beach, Signal Hill, Huntington Park and the Vernon Police Departments participated in the checkpoint. The operation was funded through a grant provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety.

Police, Traffic Enforcement Section

A Traffic Citation Enforcement Program has been developed through a grant funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety. This program gives officers the necessary resources to hold accountable those people who fail to meet the requirements of their traffic citations. As a part of the enforcement program, officers identified people living in Long Beach who have been given traffic citations, and now have an outstanding traffic warrant. Officers visited 38 residences searching for the previously identified warrant suspects. As a result of this operation, 14 people were located and arrested for their outstanding traffic warrants. The Long Beach Police Department encourages people with outstanding traffic warrants to take the necessary action to clear their cases.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Community Safety

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,643 emergency calls for service: 101 calls for fires, of which 18 involved structures; 744 emergency medical calls, of which 508 required paramedics; one aircraft emergency; one swift water rescue; and 12 HazMat calls.

Focus: Community Safety

Fire, Police, Health and Human Services, Technology Services, Parks, Recreation and Marine, Public Works and City Manager's Office

Approximately 600 employees and volunteers participated in a Federal Aviation Administration-mandated *Joint Full-Scale Airport Exercise*. Planning for this full-scale exercise at Long Beach Airport began in March 2005, and is one of the requirements for the acceptance of funds under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant. The purpose was for airport and emergency service organizations to provide rescue, fire and emergency medical and related services to victims of a simulated major aircraft disaster. It was also an opportunity for organizations to practice working together under a unified command structure during a controlled airport emergency. There were four components to the exercise, which included participation by the Airport, Long Beach Fire and Police Departments.

This exercise satisfied Federal Aviation Administration requirements wherein Airport Operations/Safety, Public Affairs and the Fire Department's Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting response were evaluated for their operational readiness. The Mass Casualty Incident Command System was tested. Additionally, the exercise provided a meaningful, realistic and safe training exercise with such agencies as the American Red Cross, the Los Angeles County Coroner, the National Transportation and Safety Bureau, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the United States Army, and area hospitals.

Focus: Business and Economic Assistance

Financial Management, Commercial Services Bureau

In-person services increased by approximately 6 percent since April 2005, from 24,361 to 25,836, with the primary increases occurring in billing and collections and parking citations. Year-to-date services have increased substantially from a year ago, rising 13 percent, from 171,208 to 194,316 for In-Person Services; with sizeable increases in utilities, parking citations, business licenses, and billing and collections activities.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Utilities

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

Staff completed a total of 2,813 service calls. This total included 1,004 Water Utility turn-ons, and 763 turn-offs. During this period, 826 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 220 meter-maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 313 emergency phone calls that resulted in 65 emergency orders being sent out.

Focus: Transportation and Infrastructure

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning, Public Works

The installation of the tile on the floor of the men and women's dressing rooms at the Silverado Park pool is complete. The installation of the baseboard along the wall in the dressing rooms will be completed shortly.

The roof installation of the new Admiral Kidd Park teen center structure has begun.

The following ADA Improvements, Phase 2, have been made:

- Lily Park – installation of the new playground, picnic tables, signs, and flat concrete work for ADA accessibility.
- Leeway Sailing Center – installation of handrails and the ADA drinking fountain.
- Birdcage Park – ADA flat concrete work, signs, and parking lot striping.
- Long Beach Cemetery – handrail installation.
- La Bella Fontana – tile installation. Installation of the drinking fountain is in progress.

Street Construction Report

Public Works, Street Improvements

Contact: 570-5160

Redondo Ave. Ocean Blvd. to Second St.

Estimated completion: June 2006

Public Works, Streetscape and Street Improvements

Contact: 570-5160

Long Beach Blvd. North of Artesia to North City Limits

Estimated completion: June 2006

Public Works, Street Improvement

Contact: 570-5160

Cherry Ave. Spring St. to Bixby Rd.

Estimated completion: May

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WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Transportation and Infrastructure

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation

Contact: 570.2060

Stearns St.

Between Clark Ave. & Bellflower Blvd.

Estimated Completion: June

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation

Contact: 570.2060

Gateway West area

Between Maine Ave. & Pacific Ave.

Between 6th St. & 3rd St.

Estimated Completion: July

Water Department, Sewer & Sewer Lift Station Modifications

Contact: 570.2323

Magnolia Ave.

Between Ocean Blvd. and Broadway Ave.

Estimated completion: October

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager
City Manager Department Heads
Tom Modica, Government Affairs Manager
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager